

BEGIN — JANUARY 25, 1961

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--URGENT--

THIRD LEAD NEWS CONFERENCE

BY DOUGLAS B. CORNELL

WASHINGTON, JAN. 25 (AP)--PRESIDENT KENNEDY ANNOUNCED TONIGHT THAT RUSSIA HAS RELEASED TWO CREWMEN OF A U. S. RB47 RECONNAISSANCE PLANE SHOT DOWN OVER THE ARCTIC LAST JULY AND GOT NO AMERICAN CONCESSION IN RETURN.

KENNEDY SAID THIS REMOVED A SERIOUS OBSTACLE TO BETTER SOVET-AMERICAN RELATIONS. MOSCOW SAID IT REPRESENTED A SINCERE DESIRE TO OPEN A NEW STAGE IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO POWERS.

KENNEDY MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT AT HIS FIRST PRESIDENTIAL NEWS CONFERENCE.

ONE KEY QUESTION THAT WENT UNASKED WAS WHO TOOK THE INITIATIVE IN OBTAINING THE RELEASE OF THE FLIERS--SOMETHING THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN DEMANDING EVER SINCE THEY WERE DOWNED JULY 1 OVER WHAT THIS COUNTRY INSISTS ARE INTERNATIONAL WATERS.

KENNEDY DIDN'T REPLY DIRECTLY TO A QUESTION WHETHER THE RELEASE CAME ABOUT AS A CONSEQUENCE OF SOME ACTION HE TOOK.

BUT THE U. S. DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN MOSCOW HAS BEEN UNDER ALMOST STANDING ORDERS TO TAKE UP AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY THE ISSUE OF RELEASING THE FLIERS. AND TOP STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS SAID THEY UNDERSTOOD AMBASSADOR LLEWELLYN THOMPSON, ACTING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, TOOK THE INITIATIVE IN BRINGING IT UP WHEN HE CONFERRED WITH SOVET PREMIER NIKITA S. KHRUSHCHEV LAST SATURDAY--THE DAY AFTER THE KENNEDY INAUGURATION.

THESE OFFICIALS SAID ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATIONS WERE REQUIRED BEFORE THE RELEASE WAS ARRANGED.

THIS FITTED IN WITH KENNEDY'S WORD THAT THE MATTER CAME UP AT THE THOMPSON-KHRUSHCHEV MEETING AND IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS.

KENNEDY DID NOT SAY AT THE NEWS CONFERENCE WHEN THE TWO FLIERS WOULD ARRIVE BACK IN THE UNITED STATES. THE WHITE HOUSE SAID LATER IT WOULD NOT BE BEFORE FRIDAY MORNING. IT DID NOT SAY WHAT CITY. DEVELOPMENTS INDICATED HOWEVER THE AIRMEN WERE FLYING TO WASHINGTON AND WOULD ARRIVE HERE TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

THE TWO, CAPTS. FREEMAN B. OLMSTEAD OF ELMIRA, N.Y., AND JOHN R. MCKONE, TOPEKA, KAN., LANDED BRIEFLY AT AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS, WHERE NEWSMEN WERE NOT ALLOWED TO TALK TO THEM, AND THEN PAUSED AN HOUR AT PRESTWICK, SCOTLAND TO REFUEL. REPORTS THERE SAID THEY WOULD FLY TO GOOSE BAY, LABRADOR AND THEN TO AMERICA, REACHING WASHINGTON ABOUT 4 P.M. EST THURSDAY. THEIR WIVES WERE ALSO PLANNING TO FLY HERE THURSDAY FROM TOPEKA, KAN.

THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS OFFICE SAID FURTHER INFORMATION WOULD BE RELEASED AT THE REGULAR 11 A.M. EST BRIEFING THURSDAY.

THE FIRST QUESTION PUT TO KENNEDY WAS WHAT HIS POLICY WOULD BE ON U. S. SPY PLANE FLIGHTS OVER RUSSIA, IN THE LIGHT OF HIS ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE RELEASE OF THE RB47 CREW.

THE PRESIDENT SAID THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT IF FULLY AWARE OF THE POSITION OF THE U. S. GOVERNMENT TAKES REGARDING THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE RB47 INCIDENT AND THE U2 SPY PLANE FLIGHT OVER SOVIET TERRITORY LAST SPRING. HE SAID FLIGHTS PENETRATING SOVIET AIR SPACE HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED SINCE LAST MAY AND:

"I HAVE ORDERED THAT THEY NOT BE RESUMED."

EVENTUALLY, THE QUESTION OF NO CONCESSIONS AND THE ORDER OF NO FURTHER U2 FLIGHTS BECAME ENMESHED.

"MR. PRESIDENT," A REPORTER ASKED AT ONE POINT, "DID THE RUSSIANS ASK ANY QUID PRO QUO OR DID WE MAKE ANY CONCESSIONS TO THEM IN EXCHANGE FOR THE RELEASE OF THESE FLIERS?"

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KENNEDY INTERJECTED A QUICK, RATHER FUZZY "THEY DID NOT" WHICH WAS MISSING FROM THE SEMI-OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT TAKEN BY STENOGRAPHERS ON THE SCENE. IT APPEARED IN TAPED RECORDINGS, HOWEVER.

"IF NOT," THE QUESTIONER CONTINUED, "HOW DO YOU ACCOUNT FOR THIS REMARKABLE TURNABOUT IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH US?"

THE REPLY:
"WE DID NOT--UH--. THE STATEMENT WHICH I HAVE MADE IS A STATEMENT WHICH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PUT FORWARD ON THIS MATTER, WHICH I READ TO YOU EARLIER IN REGARD TO OVERFLIGHTS. I WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO MAKE A JUDGMENT AS TO WHY THE SOVIET UNION CHOSE TO RELEASE THEM AT THIS TIME."

"I DID SAY IN MY STATEMENT TO MR. (MARVIN) ARROWSMITH (OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS) THAT THIS HAD REMOVED A SERIOUS OBSTACLE IN THE WAY OF PEACEFUL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES, AND I WOULD JUDGE THAT THEY DESIRED TO REMOVE THAT SERIOUS OBSTACLE."

"DOES THAT MEAN, SIR," ANOTHER NEWSMAN PUT IN, "THAT THEY ACCEPTED A REASSURANCE OF NO MORE OVER-FLIGHTS AS AN EXCHANGE?"

"IT IS A FACT THAT I HAVE ORDERED THAT THE FLIGHTS NOT BE RESUMED, WHICH IS A CONTINUATION OF THE ORDER GIVEN BY PRESIDENT EISENHOWER IN MAY OF THIS (LAST) YEAR," KENNEDY REPLIED.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RELEASE OF THE RB47 FLIERS CAME AT THE OUTSET OF THE NEW CONFERENCE.

ASKED WHY THE NEWS WAS DELAYED UNTIL TONIGHT, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY PIERRE SALINGER SAID THE RUSSIANS HAD SUGGESTED A SIMULTANEOUS RELEASE IN BOTH COUNTRIES AFTER THE AMERICANS HAD ACTUALLY LEFT MOSCOW. OFFICIALS SAID WORD OF THEIR DEPARTURE WAS NOT RECEIVED HERE UNTIL ABOUT TWO HOURS BEFORE KENNEDY'S NEWS CONFERENCE.

"THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT," KENNEDY SAID, "IS GRATIFIED BY THIS DECISION OF THE SOVIET UNION AND CONSIDERS THAT THIS ACTION OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT REMOVES A SERIOUS OBSTACLE TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS."

IN MOSCOW, THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY ANNOUNCED THAT THE AMERICANS WERE RELEASED BECAUSE OF "A SINCERE DESIRE TO USHER IN A NEW STAGE IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND THE UNITED STATES."

AFTER THE NEWS CONFERENCE THE WHITE HOUSE SAID KENNEDY MISSTATED THE TIME OF THE FLIERS' RELEASE -- THAT HE MEANT TO SAY 2 A.M. TODAY INSTEAD OF 2 A.M. YESTERDAY.

THIS NEWS OF THE FLIERS WAS THE OUTSTANDING DISCLOSURE, AMONG A NUMBER OF OTHERS, AT THE NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S FIRST NEWS CONFERENCE SINCE HE TOOK OFFICE FRIDAY. IT WAS A CONFERENCE THAT WAS BROADCAST LIVE OVER ALL RADIO AND TV NETWORKS. IT SHATTERED PRECEDENTS, DREW WHAT WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS SAID WAS A RECORD 418 NEWSMEN, AND LASTED 36 1/2 MINUTES.

ON DOMESTIC MATTERS, KENNEDY TOLD QUESTIONERS HE INTENDS TO SEND SPECIAL MESSAGES TO CONGRESS SOON ON THE PROBLEMS OF THE GOLD OUTFLOW FROM THE UNITED STATES, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND STIMULATION OF THE ECONOMY.

THE SETTING OF THE CONFERENCE WAS THE LARGE AUDITORIUM IN THE NEW STATE DEPARTMENT BUILDING--A SHIFT FROM A CROWDED TREATY ROOM IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE WHITE HOUSE.

KENNEDY WALKED IN AT 6:01 1/2 P.M., A MINUTE AND A HALF LATE. IT WAS 6:38 WHEN MARVIN L. ARROWSMITH OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS VOICED THE

"THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT," WHICH ALWAYS ENDS THESE SESSIONS WITH REPORTERS. KENNEDY LOOKED A BIT STARTLED, SMILED AND REPLIED WITH A "THANK YOU" OF HIS OWN.

THE RELEASE OF THE FLIERS, THE PRESIDENT SAID, WAS DISCUSSED IN A FRIENDLY CONFERENCE LAST SATURDAY BETWEEN LLEWELLYN THOMPSON, U. S. AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW, AND SOVIET PREMIER NIKITA S. KHRUSHCHEV.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT RETENTION OF THE AIRMEN, A SORE POINT IN SOVIET-U. S. RELATIONS, HAS ENDED WAS A HIGH POINT OF THE NEWS CONFERENCE. AND IT OCCURRED RIGHT AT THE START.

KENNEDY ALSO DISCLOSED THAT THIS COUNTRY HAS REQUESTED MORE TIME TO PREPARE FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS ON AN ATOMIC TEST BAN AT GENEVA. THESE WERE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AGAIN FEB. 7. THE PRESIDENT SAID THIS COUNTRY HAS PROPOSED THEY BE PUT OFF UNTIL LATE MARCH.

HE VOLUNTEERED A THIRD ANNOUNCEMENT--THAT THE UNITED STATES ALSO IS INCREASING GIFTS OF FOODS TO RELIEVE FAMINE CONDITIONS IN THE CONGO. THEN, IN A FREE-WHEELING QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION, COVERING BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE SAID THAT:

--THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IS NOT CONSIDERING RESTORING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA AT THIS TIME.

--WITH RESPECT TO PROTECTING VOTING RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE, A MATTER OF CIVIL RIGHTS, THE ADMINISTRATION WILL PURSUE THE PROBLEM OF PROVIDING THAT PROTECTION WITH ALL VIGOR.

--FLIGHTS OF U2 SPY PLANE FLIGHTS OVER RUSSIA WERE SUSPENDED BY THE EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION AND "I HAVE ORDERED THAT THEY NOT BE RESUMED." KENNEDY SAID THE RUSSIANS UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUCH FLIGHTS AND THOSE OF THE RB47 FOR RECONNAISSANCE PURPOSES.

--THE U. S. NAVY HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO CONDUCT BOARDING OPERATIONS AGAINST THE HIJACKED PORTUGUESE CRUISE SHIP SANTA MARIA. THE SHIP HAS BEEN SPOTTED AND PRESENT ORDERS TO THE NAVY ARE TO ACCOMPANY IT.

--IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT HOUSE MEMBERS HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE ON PROGRAMS HE WILL PUT FORWARD FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY AND "I HOPE THAT A SMALL MINORITY WILL NOT PREVENT THE MAJORITY FROM VOTING ON THOSE BILLS." THIS WAS AN ALLUSION TO AN ATTEMPT OF HOUSE LEADERS TO BOOST THE SIZE OF THE RULES COMMITTEE, WHICH CAN BLOCK LEGISLATION WHENEVER REPUBLICANS AND SOUTHERN DEMOCRATS TEAM UP.

KENNEDY GOT A BIG ROAR OF LAUGHTER WHEN HE SAID THAT HE WAS SPEAKING JUST "AS AN INTERESTED CITIZEN."

--AS FOR A POSSIBLE MEETING WITH KHRUSHCHEV, KENNEDY SAID THERE IS NO CHANGE IN HIS STATED POSITION--THAT HAS BEEN THAT THERE MUST BE PROPER ADVANCE PREPARATION. THERE ARE NO PLANS FOR SUCH A MEETING, HE SAID, AND THE MATTER IS UNRELATED TO THE RELEASE OF THE RB47 CREW.

THE TWO AMERICAN FLIERS WHO HAVE BEEN FREED ARE CAPT. FREEMAN B. OLMSTEAD OF ELMIRA, N. Y., AND CAPT. JOHN R. MCKONE OF TOPEKA, KAN. THEY HAD BEEN HELD PRISONER IN RUSSIA SINCE THEIR RB47 RECONNAISSANCE PLANE WAS DOWNED BY A RUSSIAN FIGHTER OVER THE BARENTS SEAT LAST JULY 1.

THE UNITED STATES CONTENDED THE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS; RUSSIA CONTENDED IT WAS OVER SOVIET TERRITORY. PREMIER NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV DECLARED LAST YEAR THAT THEY WOULD BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL ON CHARGES OF ESPIONAGE. THE RUSSIANS UP TO NOW HAVE TURNED A DEAD EAR TO AMERICAN DEMANDS THAT THE TWO MEN BE RELEASED.

THE TWO MEN, ONLY APPARENT SURVIVORS OF THE SIX-MAN CREW OF THE RB47, ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN HELD IN THE MOSCOW VICINITY. THE NEGOTIATIONS ON AN ATOMIC WEAPONS TEST BAN ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE, KENNEDY SAID, AND THIS COUNTRY NEEDS TIME TO PREPARE ITS POSITION. SO, HE ADDED, THE UNITED STATES IS ASKING THAT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE BE PUT OFF UNTIL LATE MARCH.

NEXT, HE SAID, THE UNITED STATES HAS DECIDED TO INCREASE ITS CONTRIBUTION TOWARD RELIEVING FAMINE IN THE CONGO. FOOD AND SUPPLIES ARE NEEDED THERE, HE SAID, AND THE UNITED STATES WILL MEET THE DEMAND WITH RICE AND OTHER FARM PRODUCTS. KENNEDY SAID HE WAS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE RB47 CREW HAD BEEN RELEASED.

"THE UNITED STATES IS GRATIFIED BY THIS DECISION OF THE SOVIET UNION," HE SAID.

ASKED FOR HIS GENERAL POLICY ON OVERFLIGHTS OF SOVIET TERRITORY AND THE POSSIBILITY OF RESUMING SUCH THINGS AS THE U2 FLIGHTS, KENNEDY SAID THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT KNEW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE U2 MATTER AND THE FLIGHT OF THE RB47.

HE SAID U2 FLIGHTS OVER THE SOVIET UNION HAVE BEEN ORDERED SUSPENDED AND "I HAVE ORDERED THAT THEY NOT BE RESUMED."

CONCERNING REPORTS THAT SOVIET PREMIER KHRUSHCHEV MIGHT BE BACK IN THE UNITED STATES FOR THE UNITED NATIONS MEETING THIS SPRING, KENNEDY SAID HE WOULD PREFER TO WITHHOLD COMMENT UNTIL THERE WAS MORE CERTAINTY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY.

ASKED ABOUT HIS ROLE--IF HE HAD ONE--IN THE RELEASE OF THE FLIERS, KENNEDY SAID THE MATTER HAD BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE U. S. AMBASSADOR AND KHRUSHCHEV AND OTHER SOVIET AUTHORITIES.

THE FLIERS WERE RELEASED AT 2:30 A.M. YESTERDAY, HE SAID, BUT BECAUSE OF AIRCRAFT DIFFICULTIES THEIR PLANE DID NOT TAKE OFF UNTIL 5 P.M. TODAY.

THE MEN ARE EXPECTED IN THIS COUNTRY TOMORROW AFTERNOON, HE SAID. TONIGHT'S NEWS CONFERENCE, CARRIED BY ALL MAJOR U. S. TELEVISION AND RADIO NETWORKS, WAS A PRECEDENT-SETTER IN A NUMBER OF WAYS.

IT WAS THE FIRST PRESIDENTIAL NEWS CONFERENCE TO BE BROADCAST LIVE--EXCEPT FOR A GENERALLY POLITICAL QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION FORMER PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER HELD AT THE 1956 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO.

IT WAS THE FIRST TO BE HELD AT NIGHT AND THE FIRST FORMAL CONFERENCE AT WHICH DIRECT QUOTATION OF THE PRESIDENT WAS PERMITTED IMMEDIATELY AND FULLY.

THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORP. CONTRIBUTED ANOTHER FIRST BY ARRANGING TO CARRY THE CONFERENCE LIVE ON RADIO IN BRITAIN.

THE U. S. INFORMATION AGENCY IS PROVIDING SPECIAL WORLDWIDE COVERAGE THROUGH RECORDINGS BROADCAST AT PEAK LISTENING HOURS FOR VARIOUS AREAS.

WHITE HOUSE AIDES REPORTED THE ATTENDANCE AT THE NEWS CONFERENCE AS 418.

EISENHOWER'S TOP NEWS CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE FIGURE WAS 311, REACHED TWICE.

KENNEDY WAS ASKED ABOUT HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD A RECOMMENDATION BY A TASK FORCE THAT HE RESIST PRESSURES TO RESUME DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS QUICKLY.

KENNEDY SAID DISARMAMENT CHIEF JOHN J. MCCLOY HAD RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS AREA AND THAT HE HOPED THERE WOULD BE BEFORE LONG A POSITION ON GENERAL DISARMAMENT ALSO, ALTHOUGH HE SAID THERE IS NO DEADLINE ON THIS.

"WE ARE PREPARING A CLARIFICATION OF THE AMERICAN POSITION ON DISARMAMENT," HE SAID, REFERRING TO CONFERENCES WITH MCCLOY, STATE AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

KENNEDY WAS ASKED TO DIVULGE THE NATURE OF THE TWO-HOUR CONVERSATION BETWEEN U. S. AMBASSADOR LLEWELLYN THOMPSON AND KHRUSHCHEV ON JAN. 21. THE TONE WAS FRIENDLY, KENNEDY SAID, AND THE CONVERSATION HAD TO DO WITH THE RELEASE OF THE RB47 FLIERS AND OTHER MATTERS. HE DID NOT IDENTIFY THE OTHER SUBJECTS.

IN REPLY TO ANOTHER QUESTION, KENNEDY SAID THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT VOTING RIGHTS. HIS ADMINISTRATION "WILL PURSUE THE PROBLEM OF PROVIDING THAT PROTECTION WITH ALL VIGOR," KENNEDY SAID. 21

ASKED ABOUT AUTHORITY FOR HIS EXECUTIVE ORDER INCREASING DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD TO THE UNEMPLOYED, THE PRESIDENT SAID HE THINKS "WE ARE WITHIN OUR RIGHTS" TO DO THIS BY EXECUTIVE ORDER, THOUGH HIS QUESTIONER QUOTED FORMER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE EZRA TAFT BENSON AS SAYING LEGISLATION WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THIS PURPOSE.

ASKED IF THERE IS A RISK IN TELEVISED NEWS CONFERENCES, KENNEDY SAID FORMER PRESIDENT EISENHOWER HAD SPOKEN ON THE RECORD AT NON-TELEVISED CONFERENCES. 22

"THIS SYSTEM HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF PROVIDING MORE DIRECT COMMUNICATION," KENNEDY SAID.

ASKED WHETHER HE IS CONSIDERING RESUMING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA, KENNEDY SAID THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT NOW CONSIDERING SUCH A STEP.

THE UNITED STATES, HE WENT ON, IS INTERESTED IN PROSPECTS FOR A BETTER LIFE FOR THE PEOPLE OF LATIN AMERICA. WHEN MOVEMENTS IN THIS DIRECTION ARE SEIZED BY EXTERNAL FORCES, HE SAID, AND "DIRECTED TOWARD IMPOSING AN IDEOLOGY WHICH IS ALIEN TO THIS HEMISPHERE, PARTICULARLY WHEN INTERVENTION TAKES THE FORM OF MILITARY SUPPORT WHICH THREATENS THE PEACE OF THE HEMISPHERE," THEN THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED. HE SAID AMERICAN POLICY WILL BE DIRECTED TO AID PEACEFUL ECONOMIC REVOLUTION IN THE DIRECTION OF A BETTER LIFE.

KENNEDY WAS ASKED WHETHER THE SUCCESS OF HIS LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM DEPENDS IN PART ON THE OUTCOME OF EFFORTS IN THE HOUSE TO REORGANIZE THE RULES COMMITTEE SO THAT LEGISLATION IS NOT STALLED THERE.

THE PRESIDENT SAID HE DOES FEEL IT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE ON THE PROGRAMS WHICH HE WILL PUT FORWARD "FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY." 23

"MANY CONTROVERSIAL MEASURES WILL BE PRESENTED..." KENNEDY SAID, "AND I HOPE THAT A SMALL MINORITY WILL NOT PREVENT THE MAJORITY FROM VOTING ON THOSE BILLS."

KENNEDY DREW A ROAR OF LAUGHTER WHEN HE THEN COMMENTED THAT HE WAS MERELY SPEAKING "AS AN INTERESTED CITIZEN."

A QUESTIONER WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER THE NAVY CAN BOARD THE HIJACKED PORTUGUESE SHIP SANTA MARIA AND WHAT THE U. S. POSITION IS GENERALLY IN THIS MATTER.

THE PRESIDENT REPLIED THAT THE SHIP HAS BEEN LOCATED AND PRESENT INSTRUCTIONS TO THE NAVY ARE TO CONTINUE TO ACCOMPANY IT.

U. S. AIRCRAFT, HE SAID, SPOTTED THE CRAFT ABOUT 600 MILES NORTH OF THE AMAZON RIVER.

"THERE ARE AMERICANS INVOLVED AND THEIR LIVES ARE INVOLVED," KENNEDY SAID. "THE NAVY HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO CONDUCT BOARDING OPERATIONS."

BUT HE SAID THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED BECAUSE OF THE AMERICAN LIVES IN QUESTION, AND BECAUSE THE SHIP IS ONE OF A FRIENDLY NATION.

ASKED ABOUT THE CUTBACK IN MILITARY DEPENDENTS ABROAD ORDERED BY THE EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION, KENNEDY SAID THE SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE AND TREASURY HAVE DISCUSSED THE ORDER IN TERMS OF MILITARY MORALE AND DISCIPLINE. 24

HE SAID HE EXPECTS TO MAKE SOME REFERENCE TO THE GOLD OUTFLOW QUESTION IN HIS STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE AND LATER WOULD HAVE A MESSAGE ON THE QUESTION OF STEMMING THE GOLD OUTFLOW ITSELF. THE DEPENDENTS ACTION WAS TAKEN IN HOPE OF STEMMING THE GOLD OUTFLOW.

"OUR STUDY SO FAR AS CONVINCED US THAT THE DOLLAR MUST BE PROTECTED AND... IT IS A MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM," KENNEDY SAID.

HE SAID HE EXPECTS TO DECIDE BY THE TIME OF HIS SPECIAL MESSAGE WHETHER SOME ALTERNATE TO THE CUTBACK IN DEPENDENTS ABROAD COULD BE PUT INTO EFFECT.

A NEWSMAN ASKED IF KENNEDY HAD PLANS ON ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AID TO THE UNEMPLOYED.

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A MESSAGE WILL BE SENT TO CONGRESS SOON, HE SAID, REGARDING MEASURES TO PROTECT THE UNEMPLOYED AND TO STIMULATE THE ECONOMY.

KENNEDY WAS ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD TOLERATE WHAT THE QUESTIONER CALLED CONTINUED ABUSE OF THE EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE TO WITHHOLD INFORMATION FROM CONGRESS. SPECIFICALLY, THE QUESTIONER INQUIRED, WOULD HE TAKE STEPS TO SEE THAT THE RESULTS OF FOREIGN POLLS ON THE PRESTIGE OF THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE MADE PUBLIC.

KENNEDY SAID HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO SEE THAT SUCH POLLS WERE RELEASED. 25

ON THE QUESTION OF RETURNING TO "QUIET DIPLOMACY," RATHER THAN PUBLICIZED HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS, KENNEDY SAID SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN RUSK IS "ANXIOUS TO EXPLORE WITH INTERESTED COUNTRIES WHAT CHANCES WE HAVE OF LESSENING WORLD TENSIONS, WHICH IN SOME COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD IS QUITE HIGH TONIGHT."

HE SAID HE HOPES THAT "MORE TRADITIONAL EXCHANGES" OF DIPLOMATIC VIEWS MIGHT LEAD TO THE FINDING OF MORE COMMON GROUND.

ASKED WHETHER HE HOPES TO LIVE WITHIN THE SPENDING FIGURE IN EISENHOWER'S BUDGET, KENNEDY REPLIED THAT A STUDY OF THE BUDGET IS CONTINUING AND HE CANNOT NOW ANSWER.

HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS WAS CONFINED TO WORLD MATTERS, HE SAID, BECAUSE THIS IS OF PRIMARY CONCERN TO THE COUNTRY AND ALSO BECAUSE HIS ADMINISTRATION IS "NEW ON THE WORLD SCENE" SO "I FELT THERE WAS SOME USE IN INFORMING THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD OF OUR VIEWS ON THE QUESTIONS THAT CONCERN THE WORLD AND DIVIDE THE WORLD."

KENNEDY WAS ASKED WHETHER THERE IS ANY HOPE OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE LAOS SITUATION.

HE SAID THE WORLD SHOULD SHORTLY KNOW WHETHER THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION COULD BE RE-ESTABLISHED THERE.

THE UNITED STATES, HE SAID, IS INTERESTED IN SEEING IN LAOS A PEACEFUL, UNCOMMITTED NATION, HAS NO INTEREST IN HAVING ANY POSITION OF DOMINANCE THERE. 26

ASKED IF THE UNITED STATES HAD DISCUSSED WITH THE SOVIETS THE CASES OF GARY FRANCIS POWERS AND 11 OTHER DOWNED U. S. AIRMEN, KENNEDY SAID THE MATTER OF THE 11 WAS DISCUSSED. THE RUSSIANS STOOD ON THEIR PREVIOUS STATEMENTS, HE ADDED.

POWERS HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED, KENNEDY SAID, BECAUSE "HE IS IN A DIFFERENT CATEGORY" FROM THE FLIERS WHO WERE RELEASED. POWERS WAS ENGAGED IN A FLIGHT OVER SOVIET TERRITORY WHILE THE OTHERS WERE NOT, KENNEDY SAID.

KENNEDY SAID THE UNITED STATES MADE NO CONCESSION TO THE SOVIET UNION IN RETURN FOR THE RELEASE OF THE RB47 FLIERS.

"I WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO MAKE A JUDGMENT AS TO WHY THE SOVIET UNION CHOSE TO RELEASE THEM AT THIS TIME," HE SAID.

NOTING THAT HE HAD SAID THE ACTION REMOVES A SERIOUS OBSTACLE TO BETTER RELATIONS, HE SAID THE SOVIETS MAY HAVE WANTED TO REMOVE SUCH AN OBSTACLE.

HAVE THE RUSSIANS ACCEPTED THE ASSURANCE OF NO MORE U2 OVERFLIGHTS AS AN AMERICAN CONCESSION, THE PRESIDENT WAS ASKED.

KENNEDY REPLIED MERELY THAT THE ASSURANCE OF NO MORE OVERFLIGHTS HAD BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE SOVIETS.

ASKED ABOUT POSSIBLE ELECTORAL REFORMS, KENNEDY SAID HE HAD SOME THOUGHTS ON THE SUBJECT.

NO SHARP CHANGES COULD GET THROUGH CONGRESS IN ITS PRESENT TEMPER, KENNEDY SAID.

PERHAPS APPROVAL COULD BE GAINED FOR A PLAN REQUIRING ELECTORS TO BE BOUND BY THE RESULTS OF A STATE VOTE, HE SAID. THAT MIGHT BE MADE AUTOMATIC, HE ADDED.

HE SAID HE ALSO HOPED CONGRESS WOULD CONSIDER PROPOSALS TO HAVE THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATE IN FINANCING CAMPAIGNS.
"THE PRESENT SYSTEM IS NOT SATISFACTORY," HE SAID.
A REPORTER WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER KENNEDY HAD GIVEN ANY CONSIDERATION TO THE PROBLEM OF SUCCESSION TO THE PRESIDENCY IN CASE OF ILLNESS OR INCAPACITY OF THE PRESIDENT.
KENNEDY SAID HE HAD NOT DONE SO, BUT THAT HE THOUGHT THE PRECEDENT EISENHOWER HAD SET WITH HIS ARRANGEMENT WITH VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD M. NIXON WAS A GOOD ONE.
THE CONFERENCE WAS ENDED AT 6:38 P.M., EST, WHEN MARVIN ARROWSMITH OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS CALLED OUT, "THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT."
KENNEDY, APPARENTLY TAKEN SLIGHTLY BY SURPRISE, REPLIED, "THANK YOU."

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(420)

FIRST LEAD WITH FLIERS (A109)

BY ADREN COOPER
TOPEKA, KAN., JAN. 25 (AP)--"WE NEVER GAVE UP HOPE."
TWO HAPPY AIR FORCE WIVES SAID THAT OVER AND OVER TONIGHT SHORTLY AFTER THEY LEARNED THEIR HUSBANDS HAD BEEN RELEASED FROM A RUSSIAN PRISON.
MRS. FREEMAN B. (GAIL) OLMSTEAD, 25, AND MRS. JOHN R. (CONNIE) MCKONE EMBRACED WHEN THEY SAW EACH OTHER ABOUT 45 MINUTES AFTER HEARING THE NEWS.

"CONNIE, I'M SO HAPPY," SAID MRS. OLMSTEAD, ON THE VERGE OF TEARS.
MRS. MCKONE REMAINED REMARKABLY CALM.
MRS. OLMSTEAD, WHO IS EXPECTING A CHILD EARLY IN MARCH, SAID SHE CRIED WHEN AN AIR FORCE OFFICIAL CALLED FROM WASHINGTON TO INFORM HER THAT CAPT. OLMSTEAD, CAPTURED WHEN AN RB47 RECONNAISSANCE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN NEAR RUSSIAN WATERS, HAD BEEN RELEASED AND WAS ENROUTE HOME.
"I'M STILL COMPLETELY DRY," MRS. MCKONE SAID WITH A WIDE SMILE.

AIR FORCE OFFICIALS FIRST TOLD THE TWO WOMEN THEY WOULD BE ALLOWED TO TALK TO THEIR HUSBANDS BY TELEPHONE AFTER THE FLIERS LANDED IN AMSTERDAM. HOWEVER, SHORTLY AFTER 8:45 P.M. (CST), THE TIME SET FOR THE CALL, AIR FORCE OFFICIALS SAID THE FLIERS HAD "MISSED CONNECTIONS" AND THERE WOULD BE NO CALL.

SINCE THE TWO WOMEN WERE TO LEAVE EARLY THURSDAY FOR WASHINGTON, THEIR FIRST WORDS WITH THEIR HUSBANDS POSSIBLY WILL BE IN A FACE-TO-FACE MEETING IN WASHINGTON.

MRS. MCKONE TALKED BRIEFLY TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY. SHE SAID HE TOLD HER "HOW HAPPY HE WAS TO HAVE THE MEN RELEASED."

THE TWO WOMEN WERE BESIEGED BY TELEPHONE CALLS FROM NEWSMEN IN ALL PARTS OF THE NATION, BUT NO NEWSMEN WERE PERMITTED IN THE HOUSE WHERE THE CALLS FROM THEIR HUSBANDS WERE TO COME.

THE SCENE WAS QUITE DIFFERENT IN THE HOME OF MRS. OSCAR L. GOFORTH, THE WIFE OF ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE CREW WHO WAS REPORTED MISSING.

SHE FIRST HEARD THAT OLMSTEAD AND MCKONE HAD BEEN RELEASED AS SHE WAS WATCHING PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S TELEVISED NEWS CONFERENCE.

SHE, TOO, HAS NEVER GIVEN UP HOPE THAT HER HUSBAND IS ALIVE--BUT SHE SEEMED GREATLY UPSET NOW THAT THERE WAS A CHANCE THAT SHE FINALLY WOULD GET A FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED TO HER HUSBAND.

"I AM IN A STATE OF SUSPENSE," SHE SAID. "IT'S TERRIBLE."
"IF MY HUSBAND IS DEAD, I WILL ALWAYS BLAME PRESIDENT EISENHOWER," SHE SAID BITTERLY. "IF HE HAD HANDLED THINGS DIFFERENTLY MY HUSBAND WOULD NOT BE WHERE HE IS--WHEREVER HE IS."

ASKED IF SHE PLANNED TO BE WITH MRS. MCKONE AND MRS. OLMSTEAD THEIR HUSBANDS CALLED, SHE REPLIED CRISPLY, "I HAVE NOT BEEN INV

LATER, MRS. GOFORTH TELEPHONED THE ASSOCIATED PRESS AND, IN A CALMER TONE, SAID, "I HAVE DECIDED THAT I SHOULD NOT BE THERE WHEN THE CALL COMES. THIS IS A HAPPY TIME FOR THEM, I MIGHT POIL IT."

"I AM SO HAPPY TO HEAR THE NEWS," SAID MRS. WILLARD PALM, WIDOW OF A CREW MEMBER WHO APPARENTLY WAS KILLED WHEN THE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN. PALM'S BODY WAS RETURNED BY THE RUSSIANS SEVERAL WEEKS AGO AND WAS BURIED WITH HONORS IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY.

"I HOPE NOW WE CAN FIND OUT A LOT OF THINGS--THE TRUTH--AND JUST WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHER BOYS."

MCKONE, OLMSTEAD AND PALM WERE MEMBERS OF A SIX-MAN CREW. THERE HAS BEEN NO DISCLOSURE OF THE FATE OF THE OTHER THREE MEMBERS.

"I GUESS WE WILL KNOW PRETTY SOON JUST WHAT HAPPENED," MRS. PALM ADDED. WHEN A REPORTER EXPRESSED REGRET THE SITUATION COULDN'T HAVE WORKED OUT BETTER FOR ALL, MRS. PALM SAID:

"I'M SORRY TOO. I CERTAINLY HOPE THAT GOD IN HIS WISDOM KNOWS BEST."

MRS. GOFORTH SAID SHE SENT A TELEGRAM TO THE PRESIDENT ASKING MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HER HUSBAND.

SHE ALSO SAID SHE WROTE A LETTER TO EISENHOWER ABOUT A MONTH AGO, BUT HAD RECEIVED NO ANSWER.

MRS. OLMSTEAD AND MRS. MCKONE GREETED NEWSMEN AT THE HOME OF COL. WILLIAM D. KYLE, COMMANDER OF THE AIR FORCE WING TO WHICH THE RB47 CREWMEN WAS ATTACHED ONLY A FEW WEEKS BEFORE THE FATEFUL FLIGHT.

WHEN THE WORD CAME THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD CALL, MRS. MCKONE WENT TO THE TELEPHONE AND SPOKE FOR A MINUTE AS NEWSMEN CROWDED AROUND.

"WHAT DID HE SAY?" SOMEONE ASKED.

"THAT'S FOR ME TO KNOW AND YOU TO FIND OUT," SHE SAID WITH A LAUGH.

LATER, SHE SAID KENNEDY HAD MERELY SAID HE WANTED TO TELL HER HOW HAPPY HE WAS THAT THE MEN HAD BEEN RELEASED.

"HE ALSO ASKED IF THE AIR FORCE HAD BEEN TREATING ME ALL RIGHT," SHE SAID. SHE HAD REPLIED, "GOOD, VERY GOOD."

MRS. MCKONE AND MRS. OLMSTEAD ARE SCHEDULED TO FLY TO WASHINGTON ON AN AIR FORCE PLANE TOMORROW TO JOIN THEIR HUSBANDS.

"IS THEIR ANYTHING SPECIAL YOU PLAN WHEN YOU SEE YOUR HUSBAND-- ANYTHING YOU PLAN TO GIVE HIM?"

"JUST ME," SAID MRS. OLMSTEAD, A SMALL, BLONDE WOMAN WHO MET HER HUSBAND WHILE BOTH WERE ATTENDING COLLEGE IN OHIO.

MRS. MCKONE, A BRUNETTE IN HER LATE 20'S, SAID SHE WILL COOK HER HUSBAND THE MEAL HE HAD ASKED FOR IN ONE OF HIS LETTERS FROM RUSSIA. THE MENU INCLUDES STEAK, CREAM OF MUSHROOM GRAVY, CREAMED PEAS, BAKED POTATO AND BANANA CREAM PIE.

MRS. MCKONE, A NATIVE OF ELLSWORTH, KAN., AND HER HUSBAND, FROM TONGANOXIE, KAN., MET EIGHT YEARS AGO WHILE THEY WERE STUDENTS AT KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY.

RK940PCS NM

A170KX

WITH FLIERS (300)

TOPEKA, KAN., JAN. 25 (AP)--MRS. OSCAR L. GOFORTH, WHOSE HUSBAND WAS ONE OF SIX CREWMEN OF THE RB47 RECONNAISSANCE PLANE SHOT DOWN BY THE RUSSIANS, SAID SHE WROTE PRESIDENT EISENHOWER FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT A MONTH AGO BUT NEVER RECEIVED A REPLY.

GOFORTH IS ONE OF THREE WHOSE FATE HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED. THE RUSSIANS TODAY RELEASED CAPT. JOHN R. MCKONE OF TONGANOXIE, KAN., AND CAPT. FREEMAN B. OLMSTEAD OF ELMIRA, N. Y., AND HAVE RETURNED THE BODY OF WILLARD PALM.

MRS. GOFORTH, WHO HAS NEVER GIVEN UP HOPE HER HUSBAND IS ALIVE, SEEMED GREATLY UPSET NOW THAT THERE IS A CHANCE SHE WILL GET A FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT OF HIS FATE FROM MCKONE AND OLMSTEAD.

MRS. GOFORTH, ABOUT 25, A NATIVE PUERTO RICAN, HAS BEEN IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES ABOUT EIGHT YEARS. SHE AND GOFORTH HAVE BEEN MARRIED THREE YEARS, AND SHE HAS A SEVEN-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER BY A PREVIOUS MARRIAGE.

HER DECEMBER LETTER TO EISENHOWER, RELEASED BY HER TODAY, SAID IN PART:

"FIRST, I WANT TO KNOW WHY THE STATE DEPARTMENT, KNOWING THAT THE RB47 WAS SHOT DOWN BY THE RUSSIANS, DIDN'T TELL US (THE WIVES) ABOUT THE SITUATION BUT INSTEAD THEY KEPT RAISING OUR HOPES WITH THE SEARCH AND MAKING STATEMENTS WHEN THEY KNEW THAT THEY WOULDN'T BE SUCCESSFUL. FOR ELEVEN DAYS, WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY NEWS. THE SUFFERING OF THOSE DAYS ARE UNFORGETTABLE AND OUR STATE DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF IT.

"IT IS A DISGRACE FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO LET THE WIVES AND FAMILY KNOW THAT HUSBANDS HAVE BEEN SHOT DOWN BY THE RUSSIANS' FIGHTERS THROUGH A TELEVISION BROADCAST...

"MR. PRESIDENT, IN A WAY I THINK WE HAVE LET THOSE BOYS DOWN. HAVE YOU DONE EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO SUPPORT THOSE BOYS AND THEIR WELFARE?

"THIS IS A QUESTION I SHOULD NOT ASK OF THE PRESIDENT OF OUR NATION BUT THIS IS A QUESTION THAT CAN'T BE ASKED OF JUST ANYONE.

"I ASK YOU THIS BECAUSE YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE THAT CAN ANSWER. I KNOW YOU ARE VERY CAPABLE OF DOING IT. I HAVE ADMIRERD THE WAY YOU HAVE HANDLED OTHER SITUATIONS. HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE NEGLIGENCE OF OUR STATE DEPARTMENT?"

RK1141PCS NM

A115

FIRST LEAD WITH FLIERS (280)

ELMIRA, N.Y., JAN. 25 (AP)-TEARS OF JOY FLOODED THE EYES OF MR. AND MRS. J. BLAINE OLMSTEAD TONIGHT WHEN THEY LEARNED THAT THEIR SON AND ANOTHER U.S. AIRMAN HAD BEEN FREED FROM A SOVIET PRISON WHERE THEY HAD BEEN HELD SINCE LAST JULY.

"WE WERE ALONE IN OUR LIVING ROOM, WATCHING PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S TELEVISED PRESS CONFERENCE," THE FATHER OF CAPT. FREEMAN B. OLMSTEAD TOLD REPORTERS, "WHEN PRESIDENT KENNEDY ANNOUNCED THE BOYS RELEASE.

"WE SIMPLY BROKE DOWN IN TEARS," HE SAID.

MRS. OLMSTEAD SAID THE ANNOUNCEMENT "CAME LIKE A BOMBSHELL OUT OF THE BLUE. IT WAS THE FIRST WORD WE HAD HEARD." HER EYES WERE RIMMED WITH HAPPINESS.

THEIR SON AND CAPT. JOHN R. MCKONE OF TOPEKA, KAN., HAD BEEN PRISONERS IN A RUSSIAN JAIL SINCE THEIR RB47 RECONNAISSANCE PLANE WAS DOWNED BY A RUSSIAN FIGHTER LAST JULY.

THE FATHER TOLD REPORTERS THAT TOMORROW WOULD BE HIS 64TH (CQ) BIRTHDAY, BUT THAT HIS GREATEST PRESENT IN LIFE HAD ARRIVED A DAY EARLY.

"IT IS THE MOST MARVELOUS BIRTHDAY THAT I HAVE EVER HAD."

ANOTHER SON, THE REV. JAMES OLMSTEAD, AN EPISCOPAL MINISTER IN CLARKS MILLS, FAIRLY BURST INTO THE HOME AND, SPOTTING HIS FATHER, SAID:

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DAD."

DR. BRENT C. OLMSTEAD, CHIEF RESIDENT DERMATOLOGIST AT MEYER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN BUFFALO, DESCRIBED HIS CONDITION AS

"EUPHORIC... I JUST CAN'T TELL YOU HOW HAPPY WE ALL ARE."

THE FLIER'S WIFE, MRS. GAIL OLMSTEAD, WAS VISITING FRIENDS IN TOPEKA.

THE FLIER'S FATHER SAID HE HAD RECEIVED WORD FROM FORBES AIR FORCE BASE IN TOPEKA, THAT THE PLANE BEARING THE AIRMEN WOULD ARRIVE LATE TOMORROW AFTERNOON AT ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE PARENTS WILL LEAVE EARLY TOMORROW IN A PRIVATE PLANE (OWNED BY RADIO STATION WELM IN ELMIRA) FOR WASHINGTON TO MEET THEIR RETURNING SON.

MRS. OLMSTEAD SAID SHE WAS SURE THE "OCEANS OF PRAYERS THAT HAD BEEN VOICED" HAD PLAYED A ROLE IN THE RELEASE OF THE TWO FLIERS.

AND THE FATHER SAID HE NEVER DARED TO DOUBT THAT HIS BOY WOULD BE RELEASED.

"WE HAVE BEEN SITTING HERE FOR FIVE MONTHS HOPING THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN," HE SAID.

(NO PICKUP)

JB914PES

A174

FIRST LEAD FLIERS

PRESTWICK, SCOTLAND, THURSDAY, JAN. 26 (AP)-A U.S. AIR FORCE CONSTELLATION SPED ACROSS THE ATLANTIC TODAY, BRINGING HOME TWO FLIERS RELEASED BY THE SOVIET UNION AFTER SIX MONTHS IN PRISON.

THE CONSTELLATION LANDED AT PRESTWICK FOR REFUELLING, THEN TOOK OFF FOR GOOSE BAY, LABRADOR, AND THE UNITED STATES. IT WAS EXPECTED TO REACH WASHINGTON ABOUT 4 P.M. (EST) TODAY.

THE TWO FLIERS, CAPT. JOHN R. MCKONE, 38, OF TOPEKA, KAN., AND CAPT. FREEMAN B. OLMSTEAD, 24, OF ELMIRA, N.Y., STAYED ABOARD THE PLANE ASLEEP DURING THE STOP AT PRESTWICK.

THE FLIERS, SURVIVORS OF THE SIX-MAN CREW OF AN AIR FORCE RECONNAISSANCE BOMBER SHOT DOWN BY A SOVIET FIGHTER JULY 1, WERE HANDED OVER TO THE U.S. EMBASSY IN MOSCOW YESTERDAY.

THEIR RELEASE WAS ANNOUNCED EARLY LAST NIGHT BY PRESIDENT KENNEDY IN WASHINGTON AT HIS FIRST NEWS CONFERENCE AS PRESIDENT.

THE AIR FORCE WAS FLYING THE MEN'S WIVES TO WASHINGTON TODAY TO MEET THEM.

OLMSTEAD AND MCKONE FLEW FROM MOSCOW TO AMSTERDAM LAST NIGHT BY A REGULARLY SCHEDULED KLM AIRLINER AND WERE WHISKED ABOARD THE AIR FORCE CONSTELLATION, WHICH LEFT ALMOST IMMEDIATELY. THE TWO CAPTAINS REFUSED TO SAY ANYTHING TO NEWSMEN, AND OTHER PASSENGERS ON THE PLANE FROM MOSCOW SAID THEY WERE NOT AWARE OF THE IDENTITY OF THE FLIERS.

TWENTY MINUTES AFTER TAKING OFF FROM AMSTERDAM, THE FLIERS ASKED FOR HOT CHOCOLATE, THEN WENT TO BED. THEY DID NOT WANT ANYTHING TO EAT.

"THEY SEEMED EXCITED, PROBABLY TOO HAPPY EVEN TO EAT," SAID COL. M. H. GILMAN, AN AIR FORCE INFORMATION OFFICER TRAVELING WITH THEM.

THEY WERE ALSO ACCOMPANIED BY A DOCTOR AND ANOTHER OFFICER.

"THEY HAD ONE PIECE OF LUGGAGE EACH," COL. GILMAN SAID AT PRESTWICK. "THEY ASKED FOR DETAILS OF HOME AND WERE HOPING THAT THEIR WIVES WILL BE AT WASHINGTON TO MEET THEM.

"THERE IS NO SECURITY ABOUT THEM TALKING WITH THE PRESS BUT I WOULD HAT TO WAKE THEM. THEY ARE DEAD BEAT.

"THEY HAVE BEEN RECEIVING LETTERS FROM HOME AND THEY DID SAY HOW MUCH THEY WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO A LONG FURLOUGH.

"THEY ARE HOPING THEY WON'T BE DISTURBED TOO MUCH DURING THEIR FURLOUGH.

"THE TWO OFFICERS HAVEN'T TOLD US YET HOW THEY WERE TREATED BUT THEY SEEM PRETTY FIT," THE COLONEL ADDED.

(NO PICKUP)

JG1248AES

A113

UNDATED FLIERS BACKGROUND (660)

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE TWO AMERICAN FLIERS, WHOSE RELEASE WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY AFTER SIX MONTHS IMPRISONMENT IN MOSCOW, WERE PAWNS IN THE COLD WAR BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA.

CAPTS. FREEMAN B. OLMSTEAD OF ELMIRA, N.Y., AND JOHN R. MCKONE OF TOPEKA, KAN., TOOK OFF FROM BRIZE NORTON AIR FORCE BASE IN ENGLAND ON JULY 1 ABOARD AN RB47, A SIX-JET BOMBER CONVERTED TO RECONNAISSANCE USE.

A RUSSIAN FIGHTER PILOT, LATER AWARDED THE ORDER OF THE RED BANNER, SHOT DOWN THE UNARMED PLANE ON THE SAME DAY. THE UNITED STATES SAID THEY WERE OVER THE BARENTS SEA NORTH OF THE SOVIET MAINLAND. MOSCOW CLAIMED THEY WERE OVER SOVIET TERRITORY.

OLMSTEAD, 24, WAS COPILOT AND MCKONE, 38, WAS THE NAVIGATOR.

BOTH MEN PARACHUTED FROM THE PLANE.

FOUR OTHER CREWMEN ON THE RB47 NEVER RETURNED ALIVE. IN AUGUST THE RUSSIANS RETURNED THE BODY OF THE CHIEF PILOT, CAPT. WILLARD B. PALM, 39, OF OAK RIDGE, TENN., AND SAID HE HAD BEEN FOUND DEAD, FLOATING IN A RUBBER RAFT. PALM, POSTHUMOUSLY PROMOTED TO MAJOR, WAS BURIED IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY AUG. 4.

MISSING AND PRESUMED DEAD ARE CAPT. EUGENE E. POSA, 38, ORIGINALLY FROM SANTA MONICA, CALIF.; 1ST. LT. DEAN B. PHILLIPS, 25, OF INWOOD, N.Y. AND 1ST. LT. OSCAR L. COFORTH, 26, OF SARDIS, OKLA.

COMING EXACTLY TWO MONTHS AFTER THE U2 SPY PLANE CASE OF FRANCIS GARY POWERS, THE RB47 INCIDENT PROVIDED A QUICK FOLLOWUP TO SOVIET CHARGES OF "AERIAL AGGRESSION" AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

THE RUSSIANS BROUGHT THE CASE TO THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL IN JULY. THIS WAS THE BACKGROUND:

THE PLANE WAS LISTED AS MISSING JULY 1. A WIDESPREAD SEARCH OVER ARCTIC WATERS FAILED TO TURN UP ANY TRACE. ON JULY 11 THE RUSSIANS ANNOUNCED IT HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN WHILE VIOLATING SOVIET FRONTIERS. THEY SAID THE INCIDENT SHOWED THAT U.S. AERIAL ESPIONAGE CONTINUED DESPITE PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S DISCLAIMERS AFTER THE POWERS CASE.

THE RUSSIANS SAID THE PLANE WAS DOWNED EAST OF SVYATY NOY (HOLY NOSE, OR SACRED CAPE), A 10-MILE PROJECTION OF THE SOVIET KOLA PENINSULA IN THE BARENTS SEA. THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY SAID THE JET HAD VIOLATED THE STATE FRONTIER 14 MILES NORTH OF THE CAPE AND HAD IGNORED A SOVIET FIGHTER PLANE'S INSTRUCTIONS TO LAND.

THERE WAS NO EXPLANATION OF HOW THE 14-MILE DISTANCE WOULD HAVE PUT THE PLANE OVER SOVIET TERRITORIAL WATERS, WHICH ARE CLAIMED OUT TO A 12-MILE DISTANCE. HOWEVER, THE SOVIET DEFINITION OF ITS TERRITORIAL WATERS COULD HOLD IF THE PLANE HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN BETWEEN HEADLANDS.

WHEN THE CASE CAME TO THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL JULY 22, SOVIET DELEGATE V.V. KUZNETSOV SAID THE AIRMEN WERE SPIES ON A CRIMINAL MISSION AND OLMSTEAD AND MCKONE WOULD BE PROSECUTED UNDER SOVIET ESPIONAGE LAWS. HE PROPOSED A RESOLUTION DEMANDING THAT THE UNITED STATES END "PROVOCATIVE AND AGGRESSIVE FLIGHTS."

U.S. AMBASSADOR HENRY CABOT LODGE DENIED THE PLANE WAS SPYING. THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD SAID IT WAS ON AN ELECTROMAGNETIC MAPPING MISSION. LODGE SAID THE PLANE WAS NEVER LESS THAN 30 MILES FROM SOVIET TERRITORY AND ACCUSED THE RUSSIANS OF "CRIMINAL AND PIRATICAL ACTION." LATER HE DISPLAYED PHOTOGRAPHS OF WHAT HE SAID WERE RUSSIAN RADAR SHIPS PATROLLING THE U.S. COASTLINE ON SPY MISSIONS.

THE RUSSIAN PROPOSAL WAS DEFEATED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE RUSSIANS ALSO VETOED AN AMERICAN PROPOSAL FOR AN IMPARTIAL INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION.

THE RUSSIANS PRESSED THE CASE. THEY REINSTATED THE CHARGE OF AGGRESSION LAST FALL IN THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH POSTPONED IMMEDIATE DISCUSSION HOPING FOR FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENTS WITH THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. PRESIDENT EISENHOWER HAD STIPULATED OLMSTEAD AND MCKONE'S RELEASE WOULD BE AMONG THE CONDITIONS HE WOULD INSIST ON FOR ANY NEW MEETING WITH KHRUSHCHEV.

THE TWO FLIERS WERE HELD IN MOSCOW'S LUBYANKA PRISON. U.S. PROTEST NOTES WERE REBUFFED BY THE SOVIET UNION. EFFORTS BY U.S. DIPLOMATS IN MOSCOW TO VISIT THE PAIR WERE UNAVAILING.

LETTERS FROM OLMSTEAD TO HIS PARENTS IN ELMIRA DISCLOSED THAT THE TWO MEN WERE ALLOWED TO HOLD A REUNION LAST CHRISTMAS DAY. THERE WAS NO INDICATION THE TWO WERE NOT WELL TREATED.

OLMSTEAD WROTE THAT HE SUFFERED A SPINAL INJURY WHEN HE BAILED OUT OF THE RB47. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN IN TRACTION FOR SIX WEEKS AND EXPECTED TO REMAIN IMMOBILE FOR SIX WEEKS MORE FOR TREATMENT OF A FRACTURED VERTEBRA. HE SAID HIS ROUTINE CONSISTED MOSTLY OF READING.

JB907PES

A97

(260)

WASHINGTON, JAN. 25 (AP)-THE WHITE HOUSE TONIGHT COMMENDED THE NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE FOR FOREGOING A 19-HOUR NEWS BEAT ON RUSSIA'S RELEASE OF THE AMERICAN FLIERS.

IN A TELEGRAM TO PUBLISHER JOHN HAY WHITNEY, PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY PIERRE SALINGER SAID:

"I WOULD LIKE TO COMMEND THE NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE FOR THE RESPONSIBLE MANNER IN WHICH THEY WITHHELD PUBLICATION OF THE NEWS THAT THE RB-47 PILOTS WERE TO BE RELEASED BY THE SOVIET UNION AT 2 A.M. THIS MORNING.

"I WAS CONTACTED LAST EVENING BY YOUR REPORTER, MR. DAVID WISE, WHO HAD SECURED THE INFORMATION ON THE IMPENDING RELEASE. I TOLD HIM THAT THE RELEASE OF THIS INFORMATION WOULD BE HARMFUL TO THE NATIONAL INTEREST AND INIMICAL TO THE WELFARE OF THE FLIERS. ON BEING TOLD THIS, MR. WISE AGREED TO HOLD OFF PUBLICATION OF THIS STORY.

"IN DOING THIS THE HERALD TRIBUNE PREVENTED THE VIOLATION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE USSR WHICH MIGHT HAVE HAD REGRETTABLE REPERCUSSIONS. THE HERALD TRIBUNE'S EXAMPLE IN THIS CASE IS TO BE HIGHLY COMMENDED."

IT WAS NOT UNTIL 6 P.M. THIS EVENING THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE, ANNOUNCED THE RELEASE OF THE FLIERS.

THE HERALD TRIBUNE SAID ITS WASHINGTON BUREAU FIRST GOT WIND OF THE STORY ABOUT 10 P.M. YESTERDAY AND WITHIN ABOUT AN HOUR HAD THE ESSENTIAL FACTS IN ITS POSSESSION.

WISE, THE NEWSPAPER'S WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT, CALLED SALINGER SHORTLY BEFORE MIDNIGHT FOR COMMENT. THE PRESS SECRETARY THEN EXPLAINED CONDITIONS TO WISE AND ASKED HIM TO WITHHOLD THE STORY.

THE HERALD TRIBUNE ADDED:

"IN ANTICIPATION OF THE STORY THE HERALD TRIBUNE HAD SLOWED DOWN THE RUN OF ITS 'LATE CITY EDITION' IN NEW YORK SO THAT THE NEWS MIGHT BE CARRIED IN THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF COPIES.

"NEVERTHELESS, IN VIEW OF THE NATURE OF THE WHITE HOUSE REQUEST, THE HERALD TRIBUNE DECIDED NOT TO BREAK THE ANNOUNCEMENT."

DF806PES

A81WX

N T U R G E

PRESS CONFERENCE COLOR

BY ARTHUR EDSON

WASHINGTON, JAN. 25 (AP)-PRESIDENT KENNEDY, HOLDING HIS FIRST NEWS CONFERENCE ON LIVE TELEVISION, PERFORMED AS THOUGH HE HAD BEEN DOING SUCH CHORES ALL HIS LIFE.

FOR 38 MINUTES KENNEDY FIELDIED EVERY QUESTION TOSSED HIS WAY, AND DID IT WITH EASE AND COOLNESS.

THIS NEWS CONFERENCE WAS QUITE A CHANGE OF PACE IN EVERY WAY.

FOR ONE THING, A NEWS CONFERENCE HELD AT 6 P.M., WITH ALL AMERICA ABLE TO WATCH, IS AN INNOVATION. AND, FOR ANOTHER, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME A PRESIDENTIAL NEWS CONFERENCE HAS BEEN HELD IN THE LUSH STATE DEPARTMENT AUDITORIUM.

IT WAS A SWANK AFFAIR IN ALMOST EVERY RESPECT.

IT'S A LITTLE HARD TO DETERMINE HOW THIS CONFERENCE MUST HAVE LOOKED ON YOUR TELEVISION SET, BUT HERE'S THE WAY IT LOOKED FROM INSIDE THE ARENA:

KENNEDY, A NOTORIOUS LATECOMER, WAS ONLY A COUPLE OF MINUTES BEHIND SCHEDULE TODAY. HE CAME IN, NODDED TO REPORTERS AND MADE THREE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

POSSIBLY FOR DRAMATIC EFFECT, IT WAS THE THIRD ANNOUNCEMENT--THE RELEASE OF TWO AMERICAN FLIERS HELD BY THE RUSSIANS--THAT CAUSED THE GREATEST STIR.

THROUGHOUT THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS KENNEDY READ FROM PAPERS IN HIS HAND, AND ALTHOUGH DURING THE CAMPAIGN HIS HANDS OFTEN TREMBLED IN SIMILAR SITUATIONS, THERE WASN'T A TREMOR TONIGHT.

AND IT WAS THAT WAY THROUGHOUT. MOSTLY KENNEDY WAS AS SOLEMN AS HE WAS IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS LAST FRIDAY, BUT THERE WERE A FEW COMMENTS THAT DREW LAUGHS. THE ONE KENNEDY SEEMED TO ENJOY THE MOST DEALT WITH THE BATTERED, DIVIDED DEMOCRATS IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK. WHAT DID KENNEDY PLAN TO DO ABOUT THIS STATE WHICH GAVE HIM SUCH A SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY IN NOVEMBER? KENNEDY SAID HE WAS HAVING JOHN BAILEY, DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, LOOK INTO THE PROBLEM-- "IN AN ATTEMPT TO ALLEVIATE SOME OF THE DISTRESS."

A103WX

(480) NEWS CONFERENCE--REACTION WASHINGTON, JAN. 25 (AP)--PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S TELEVISED NEWS CONFERENCE WAS HAILED BY A DEMOCRAT TONIGHT AS "A PROMISING NEW METHOD OF KEEPING THE PEOPLE INFORMED." SOME REPUBLICANS CRITICIZED THE IDEA AS RISKY AND DANGEROUS. MEMBERS OF BOTH PARTIES WELCOMED THE PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RELEASE OF TWO U.S. FLIERS WHO HAD BEEN HELD BY THE RUSSIANS SINCE LAST JULY 1.

SEN. FRANK CARLSON, R-KAN., CALLED IT "THE BEST NEWS I HAVE HEARD IN A DECADE."

CARLSON SAID HE THOUGHT KENNEDY HANDLED HIMSELF WELL, BUT ADDED A FEAR THAT CONTINUING LIVE BROADCASTS OF PRESIDENTIAL NEWS CONFERENCES "HAS REAL DANGERS IN IT."

SEN. FRANK CHURCH, D-IDAHO, WHO CALLED IT A PROMISING NEW METHOD OF KEEPING THE PEOPLE INFORMED, SAID THE FLIERS' RELEASE WAS "THE FIRST SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN POLICY."

SEN. MIKE MANSFIELD, D-MONT., SENATE MAJORITY LEADER, CALLED KENNEDY'S PERFORMANCE "CONFIDENT, COURAGEOUS AND CANDID."

"I MARVELED AT HOW WELL HE HANDLED HIMSELF," MANSFIELD TOLD A REPORTER.

BUT SEN. GEORGE D. AIKEN, R-VT., LIKE MANSFIELD AND CARLSON A MEMBER OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, SAID HE THOUGHT THE PRACTICE OF BROADCASTING PRESIDENTIAL NEWS CONFERENCES LIVE SHOULD BE "DISCONTINUED."

"I THINK THEY ARE RATHER RISKY PERFORMANCES," AIKEN COMMENTED. "I AM DISTURBED THAT ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS CAN LEAD TO MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND THE DRAWING OF WRONG INFERENCES."

"PEOPLE COULD GET THE IMPRESSION THAT THE PRESIDENT IS GRATEFUL TO RUSSIA FOR THE RELEASE OF THE TWO FLIERS WHOSE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN ILLEGALLY AND WHOSE COMPANIONS WERE KILLED. THE PRESIDENT MADE A MORE IMPRESSIVE TELEVISION APPEARANCE IN THE CAMPAIGN."

ANOTHER REPUBLICAN, SEN. KENNETH B. KEATING OF NEW YORK SAID THE EXPERIMENT "MUST BE PRONOUNCED A GREAT SUCCESS."

KEATING SAID THAT WHILE ALL REJOICED AT NEWS OF THE FLIERS' RELEASE "WE MUST NOT LET DOWN OUR GUARD."

"I APPLAUD THE PRESIDENT'S STAND THAT THIS OVERDUE PLOY IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS WILL NOT STAMPEDE HIM INTO AN ILL-PREPARED AND FUTILE SUMMIT CONFERENCE," KEATING SAID.

CHAIRMAN CARL VINSON, D-GA., OF THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE CALLED THE NEWS CONFERENCE "MAGNIFICENT." HE SAID THAT IT WAS A GREAT THING FOR THE COUNTRY TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR QUESTIONS ANSWERED "OFF THE CUFF."

VINSON SAID THE PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT WAS THE FIRST HE HAD HEARD OF THE RELEASE OF THE RB47 CREW MEN.

REP. HOWARD W. ROBISON, R-N.Y. CALLED THE RUSSIAN ACTION AN ATTEMPT TO CURRY FAVOR WITH THE KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION, WHILE REP. WILLIAM H. AVERY, R-KAN. SAID HE VIEWED IT AS PART OF A "COMMUNISTIC CONSPIRACY TO EMBARRASS THE UNITED STATES." BOTH WELCOMED THE NEWS.

30.24-

95

OTHER COMMENT:

SEN. PAUL H. DOUGLAS, D-ILL.,--"PRESIDENT KENNEDY SHOWED HIMSELF AGAIN TO BE AMAZINGLY LUCID AND SUREFOOTED, AND ALSO REFRESHINGLY GRAMMATICAL."

SEN. CLINTON P. ANDERSON, D-N.M.: "I THINK IT IS WONDERFUL TO HAVE THE PRESIDENT APPEAR BEFORE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND GIVE THEM A CLEAR STATEMENT ON HIS POLICIES."

ANDERSON, TOP SENATE SPOKESMAN ON THE SENATE-HOUSE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEE, SAID HE WAS GLAD KENNEDY ASKED A DELAY IN RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA TEST NEGOTIATIONS.

"I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO GO TO GENEVA WITH A FIXED POLICY, AND THAT THERE BE CONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS," ANDERSON SAID.

REP. THOMAS M. PELL, R-WASH., SAID HE THOUGHT KENNEDY DID A VERY GOOD JOB AND "ACQUITTED HIMSELF ADMIRABLY."

REP. JOHN DOWDY, D-TEX.: "HE SHOWED KNOWLEDGE ON EVERY QUESTION ASKED."

D7831PES

REPORTERS LAUGHED AT THIS QUAIN WAY TO DESCRIBE SQUABBLING DEMOCRATS, AND KENNEDY GRINNED BROADLY AT HIS OWN PHRASEOLOGY.

THIS AUDITORIUM WHERE THE NEWS CONFERENCES ARE TO BE HELD FROM NOW ON DESERVES A BIT OF DESCRIPTION.

COMPARED WITH THE OLD TREATY ROOM, IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE NEXT TO THE WHITE HOUSE, WHICH FORMER PRESIDENT EISENHOWER USED, THIS ONE REALLY HAS CLASS.

REPORTERS, ACCUSTOMED TO BEING SO CROWDED THEY COULD HARDLY WRITE, NOW LOLLED IN WELL PADDED SEATS THAT RESEMBLE THOSE OF AN EXPENSIVE LITTLE THEATER.

CAMERA MEN WERE RANGED ALL AROUND THE AUDITORIUM. AND SO GREAT WAS THE INTEREST IN THIS FIRST KENNEDY NEWS CONFERENCE A RECORD 418 REPORTERS SHOWED UP FOR IT.

IN FAIRNESS, IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THE OLD MARK OF 311 SET TWICE DURING THE EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION WAS ABSOLUTELY THE TOP NUMBER THAT COULD BE CROWDED INTO THE OLD TREATY ROOM.

AS KENNEDY ANSWERED QUESTIONS WITH SUBJECT MATTER THAT RANGED ALL OVER THE WORLD, HE SEEMED TO WORK UP A SLIGHT BIT OF PERSPIRATION.

THIS WASN'T NECESSARILY DUE TO ANY WORRY OVER HIS ANSWERS, HOWEVER. WHERE HE STOOD ON THE BRILLIANTLY LIGHTED STAGE, HE LOOKED DIRECTLY INTO 14 FLOODLIGHTS. REPORTERS WHO HAD TESTED THE PODIUM EARLIER SAID IT WAS SIMILAR TO LOOKING DIRECTLY INTO BRIGHT SUNLIGHT.

IT HAD BEEN THOUGHT THAT PERHAPS IN THIS ATMOSPHERE REPORTERS MIGHT FEEL A LITTLE SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT ASKING QUESTIONS--IT WAS ALMOST LIKE TALKING BACK TO AN ACTOR ON THE STAGE--BUT NO SUCH PROBLEM DEVELOPED.

REPEATEDLY KENNEDY HAD TO RECOGNIZE ONE OF 20 CLAMMERING POTENTIAL QUESTIONERS AND AT THE END ANOTHER COVEY WAS ON ITS FEET TRYING TO GET HIS ATTENTION WHEN THE "THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT," ENDED THE CONFERENCE AND THERE WAS THE USUAL SCRAMBLE FOR THE PHONES.

KENNEDY STROLLED LEISURELY AWAY AND WAVED TO REPORTERS HE RECOGNIZED AS HE WENT TOWARD THE DOOR.

ONLY ONE QUESTION WENT UNANSWERED HERE TONIGHT. JUST BEFORE KENNEDY ENTERED THE CONFERENCE ROOM AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO SEE HOW WELL QUESTIONS COULD BE HEARD FROM THE REAR. ONE REPORTER NEAR THE BACK GOT UP AND, IN AN IMPECCABLE BRITISH ACCENT, ASKED:

"MR. PRESIDENT, WHO IS GOING TO WIN THE WORLD SERIES THIS YEAR?" IT PROBABLY WAS THE MOST UNUSUAL QUESTION EVER ASKED EVEN ON A TRIAL RUN, AND IT GOT A LAUGH.

EG725PES NM

A112WX

(190) NEWS CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE
WASHINGTON, JAN. 25 (AP)-FOLLOWING, AT A GLANCE, IS WHAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY SAID TONIGHT AT HIS FIRST PRESIDENTIAL NEWS CONFERENCE:
--RUSSIA HAS RELEASED TWO U.S. AIRMEN IT HELD PRISONER SINCE JULY, APPARENTLY THE ONLY SURVIVORS OF AN AMERICAN RECONNAISSANCE PLANE SHOT DOWN OVER THE ARCTIC LAST JULY.
--THE UNITED STATES HAS ASKED MORE TIME TO PREPARE FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS ON AN ATOMIC TEST BAN, NOW SCHEDULED TO REOPEN IN GENEVA FEB. 7.
--THE UNITED STATES IS INCREASING GIFTS OF FOOD TO RELIEVE FAMINE IN THE CONGO.
--HIS ADMINISTRATION IS NOT CONSIDERING RESTORING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA AT THIS TIME.
--THE ADMINISTRATION WILL PURSUE "WITH ALL VIGOR" THE PROBLEM OF PROTECTING VOTING RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE.
--FLIGHTS OF U2 SPY PLANE FLIGHTS OVER RUSSIA WERE SUSPENDED BY THE EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION AND "I HAVE ORDERED THAT THEY NOT BE RESUMED."
--THE U. S. NAVY HAS NOT BEEN INSTRUCTED TO BOARD THE HIJACKED PORTUGUESE CRUISE SHIP SANTA MARIA.
--SPEAKING OF THE HOUSE FIGHT OVER EXPANDING THE SIZE OF THE RULES COMMITTEE, HE SAID HE HOPES "A SMALL MINORITY WILL NOT PREVENT THE MAJORITY FROM VOTING" ON PROGRAMS HE WILL PUT FORWARD.
--THERE IS NO CHANGE IN HIS STATED SUMMIT TALK POSITION--THAT PROPER ADVANCE PREPARATIONS MUST BE MADE BEFORE HE MEETS WITH SOVIET PREMIER KHRUSHCHEV.

RZ4EG852PES

B112CX (U)

(220)

BY WILLIAM J. CONWAY

CHICAGO, JAN. 25 (AP)-THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES TODAY PREDICTED A NEW MOVE TO EASE INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS AND START NEGOTIATIONS.

WILHELM G. GREWE TOLD NEWSMEN THAT THE RUSSIANS APPEAR EAGER TO ENTER INTO TALKS WITH THE NEW AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION.

"WHETHER THAT IS A SINCERE CHANGE OF ATTITUDE," HE ADDED, "I DON'T KNOW."

GREWE, AT A NEWS CONFERENCE AT THE START OF A TWO-DAY VISIT TO CHICAGO, EXPRESSED THE OPINION IT WOULD BE BETTER TO START NEGOTIATIONS TO EASE THE COLD WAR THROUGH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, RATHER THAN TO START AT THE TOP WITH A SUMMIT CONFERENCE.

THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE IS AFRAID THE RELATIVE PEACE IN BERLIN WILL NOT LAST LONG. HE SAID THAT SOVIET PREMIER KHRUSHCHEV HAS INDICATED HE'S READY TO "PICK UP THE PROBLEM ONCE MORE" AND PROBABLY WILL DO SO IN HIS FIRST TALKS WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

GREWE (PRONOUNCED GRAY'-WE) CALLED PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S INAUGURATION LAST FRIDAY A "VERY DECISIVE AND IMPORTANT EVENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FREE WORLD."

HE SAID THE GERMANS LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WITH HIGH HOPES.

HE SAID THERE IS NO REASON TO FEAR FOR THE SAFETY OF BERLIN UNDER THE NEW AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION BECAUSE PRESIDENT KENNEDY HAD MADE HIS POSITION ON THAT CITY "FIRM AND CLEAR" DURING THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY, GREWE SAID HE IS CONFIDENT THAT ADOLF EICHMANN WILL GET A FAIR TRIAL IN ISRAEL ON CHARGES OF THE MASS MURDER OF JEWS IN GERMANY DURING THE HITLER ERA. EG

EG943PCS

A157WX

U.S.-SOVIET (250)

WASHINGTON, JAN. 25 (AP)-A U. S. SPOKESMAN TODAY ACCUSED THE SOVIETS OF PUTTING OUT "MALICIOUS PROPAGANDA" WHICH "DOES NOT ENHANCE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION."

THE STATEMENT BY A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN MARKED THE FIRST REBUTTAL BY THE KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION IN A WORD WAR THAT HAS BEEN GOING ON BETWEEN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON.

THE ARGUMENT WAS ABOUT THE CARRYING OUT OF A 1959 U.S.-SOVIET CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT WHICH IS SUPPOSED TO BOOST CORDIALITY BETWEEN THE TWO COLD WAR ADVERSARIES.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED A NEWS STORY YESTERDAY THAT SOVIET COMMUNICATIONS WERE MAKING THEIR FIRST ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES SINCE PRESIDENT KENNEDY TOOK OFFICE. THE RUSSIAN LINE WAS THAT WASHINGTON WAS WELCHING ON ITS END OF THE CULTURAL PACT.

THE U. S. SPOKESMAN USED TERMS LIKE "SURPRISING AND CONTRADICTIONARY," "UNWARRANTED AND INSUPPORTABLE ATTACK" TO DESCRIBE THE RUSSIAN ALLEGATIONS.

AMONG OTHER THINGS, HE SAID:

IN THE SPECIFIC RADIO PROGRAM EXCHANGES PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE TWO-WAY AGREEMENT, THE UNITED STATES HAS PUT OUT THE SOVIET PROGRAMS OVER MORE THAN 20 U. S. STATIONS; THE RUSSIANS HAVE FAILED TO COME THROUGH WITH PROGRAMS AS THEY HAVE PROMISED; AND THEY HAVE NOT YET USED ALL

THE PROGRAMS THE UNITED STATES HAS SUPPLIED THEM.

THE UNITED STATES HAS SUPPLIED THE RUSSIANS WITH NEWSREEL FILMS FOR TELEVISION AS PROVIDED UNDER THE 1959 AGREEMENT, BUT THE SOVIETS HAVE FAILED TO RECIPROCATATE WITH FILMS WITH ENGLISH LANGUAGE SOUND ADEQUATE FOR U. S. AUDIENCES.

DESPITE RUSSIAN ALLEGATIONS TO THE CONTRARY, THE UNITED STATES HAS "CARRIED OUT FULLY" ITS COMMITMENTS IN SHOWING FULL-LENGTH RUSSIAN MOVIES THROUGHOUT AMERICA. ONE SOVIET EXCHANGE FILM, "CIRCUS STARS," WAS SHOWN IN MORE THAN 2,500 U. S. THEATERS. OTHERS OF THE MOVIES RECEIVED OUTSTANDING OPENING PRESENTATIONS.

EG1133PES NM

A137

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., JAN. 25 (AP)-A SOFTER SOVIET POLICY IN PUBLIC TOWARD THE NEW KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION--FOR THE TIME BEING, AT LEAST--WAS SHOWN TODAY IN A U.N. SUBCOMMISSION STUDYING RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION.

VALENTIN I. SAPOZHNIKOV, A FIRST SECRETARY OF THE SOVIET U.N. DELEGATION, SPOKE FOR MORE THAN 30 MINUTES ABOUT HOW TO DEAL WITH ANTI-SEMITISM AND OTHER DISCRIMINATION, WITHOUT MAKING THE USUAL SOVIET ATTACKS ON RACIAL CONFLICT IN THE UNITED STATES.

HB1022PES

S26

(150)

BERLIN, JAN. 25 (AP)-DIETER KONIECKI, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD FOUNDATION OF LIBERAL STUDENTS, HAS BEEN MISSING IN BERLIN FOR 10 DAYS, THE GERMAN BRANCH OF THE FEDERATION ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THE 29-YEAR-OLD PHILOSOPHY STUDENT HAD BEEN ATTENDING THE FREE UNIVERSITY IN WEST BERLIN FOR A YEAR.

HE IS THE GERMAN FEDERATION'S EXPERT ON EASTERN AFFAIRS AND HAD

ATTENDED SEVERAL MEETINGS OF THE COMMUNIST
WORLD STUDENT FEDERATION AS AN OBSERVER.

A LIBERAL FEDERATION SPOKESMAN TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE KONIECKI
VIGOROUSLY REPRESENTED THE WESTERN VIEWPOINT AT THESE COMMUNIST RALLIES
AND SPECULATED THIS MIGHT HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS
DISAPPEARANCE.

KONIECKI WAS DUE TO TAKE A TRAIN TO BONN FOR A MEETING JAN. 15
BUT DID NOT SHOW UP. INQUIRIES BY THE WEST BERLIN POLICE HAVE BEEN
FRUITLESS.

AN INQUIRY ON WHETHER HE WAS HELD IN COMMUNIST EAST BERLIN WAS
ANSWERED BY THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE WITH THE ADVICE TO ASK
AGAIN IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

RQ4PES

A15 (120)

ADVANCE FOR 6 P.M. EST
(ADVANCE) LONDON, THURSDAY, JAN. 25 (AP)-GENERAL SIR RICHARD AMYATT
HULL, 53, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF BRITISH FAR EAST LAND FORCES, WILL
BE BRITAIN'S NEXT CHIEF OF THE IMPERIAL GENERAL STAFF, THE WAR OFFICE
ANNOUNCED TODAY.

HE SUCCEEDS FIELD MARSHAL SIR FRANCIS FESTING, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES
IN SEPTEMBER.

IN WORLD WAR II HULL COMMANDED "BLADEFORCE," A SPECIAL STRIKING
FORCE WHICH SEIZED TUNIS, COVERING 350 MILES IN 2 1/2 DAYS. HIS FORCE
MADE MILITARY HISTORY FOR ONE OF THE SWIFTEST ADVANCES ON RECORD.

IN 1954, AS COMMANDER OF BRITISH TROOPS IN EGYPT, HE WAS RESPONSIBLE
FOR PLANNING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE BRITISH ARMY FROM EGYPT AFTER ITS
STAY FOR MORE THAN 70 YEARS. HE WAS KNIGHTED FOR HIS SERVICES.

P&ML331PES

B157 (Q)

FONTAINEBLEAU, FRANCE, JAN. 25 (AP)-GEN. MAURICE CHALLE, COMMANDER
IN CHIEF OF ALLIED FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE, TODAY ASKED TO BE
RETIRED.

CHALLE, 55, AN AIR FORCE OFFICER, GAVE ONLY PERSONAL REASONS FOR
ASKING RETIREMENT. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS HE HAS BEEN DISSATISFIED
WITH PRESIDENT CHARLES DE GAULLE'S RELUCTANCE TO INTEGRATE
FRENCH FORCES IN THE ALLIED COMMAND, AND ALSO WITH DE GAULLE'S
ALGERIAN POLICIES.

CHALLE'S COMMAND IS ONE OF FOUR DIRECTLY UNDER GEN. LAURIS NORSTAD,
SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER FOR EUROPE.

HP143AES

30.24-

97

B33 (Q)

(ADVANCE FOR USE AT 10 EST TODAY)

(ADVANCE) BOSTON, JAN. 25 (AP)-THE NAVY'S CRACK ANTI-SUBMARINE TEAM,
TASK GROUP BRAVO, COMPOSED ENTIRELY OF NEW ENGLAND-BASED UNITS, RECEIVED
A NEW COMMANDER TODAY WHEN REAR ADM. FRANCIS E. NUESSELE RELIEVED REAR
ADM. ALLEN M. SHINN.

THE CEREMONY WAS ABOARD BOSTON BASED AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS WASP.

TASK GROUP BRAVO NORMALLY OPERATES OFF THE EAST COAST, CONDUCTING
TRAINING EXERCISES AND SEARCHING FOR UNIDENTIFIED UNDERSEA CRAFT.

IT INCLUDES A SQUADRON OF NEWPORT, R.I., BASED DESTROYERS AND THREE
ANTI-SUBMARINE AIRCRAFT SQUADRONS WHICH OPERATE FROM THE WASP BUT ARE
BASED AT QUONSET POINT NAVAL AIR STATION, R.I.

ADMIRAL NUESSELE, WHO HAILS FROM BISMARCK, N.D., WAS DESIGNATED A
NAVAL AVIATOR IN 1935 AND MOST OF HIS CAREER HAS BEEN SPENT IN THAT
DEPARTMENT.

EF545AES